

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL

PUBLIC AWARENESS/EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES for April 29, 2015

The DVCC Public Awareness/Education Committee met on April 29, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at the New Castle County Courthouse, Wilmington. Attending the meeting were: Judge Carl C. Danberg, Court of Common Pleas - Chair; Regina Johnson, Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families, Reginald Laster, NCC Police Department, Kim Williams, CHILD Inc., Pat Kwetkauskie and Natasha Smith, DVCC staff.

Call to Order: Judge Danberg called the meeting to order.

Introduction: Judge Danberg welcomed Regina Johnson and Reginald Laster.

Minutes: There were no revisions to the minutes from December 17, 2014 and February 25, 2015. The minutes, as drafted, were approved by consensus.

Old Business

- Update on Editorial re: Abuse During Pregnancy
 - The Committee reviewed the draft editorial. Two minor changes were recommended. Judge Danberg requested that the revised draft be submitted to the DVCC Executive Committee for approval. He also requested that Senator Blevins, Chair of the DVCC and Dana Harrington Conner, Esq., DVCC Vice Chair, sign the editorial.
- Update on DVCC- generated Training, Education, Events Spreadsheet
 - There was discussion about creating an interactive web-based calendar to list future domestic violence-related trainings. Judge Danberg requested that Karen Ewing, DVCC Administrative Specialist, attend the next meeting to explore this concept and feasibility.
- Strategies to facilitate distribution of *Delaware Domestic Violence Resources* posters to agencies and sites that work with children and youth.
 - Pat K. reported that 71 English and 70 Spanish DV Resources posters were distributed to 61% (34 of 56) public Middle and Charter Schools through school nurses and Behavioral Health Consultants. In addition, four high schools and two elementary schools requested posters. Judge Danberg requested follow up with the middle and charter schools that had not responded to the request to display the DV Resources posters. DVCC staff will contact school nurses in these schools.
- Additional activities to advance this initiative.
 - Judge Danberg noted he will approach the Diocese of Wilmington to obtain contact information for Catholic Schools in Delaware.

- The Committee recommended that DVCC staff contact the public libraries, Boys and Girls Clubs and YWCA's throughout Delaware. In addition, Regina Johnson offered to inquire about displaying posters in the Cottages.

New Business

- Public Awareness Campaign
 - The idea of a poster contest for teens was discussed. It was noted that the contest could promote messaging about healthy/unhealthy dating relationships and include information about teen-specific resources.
 - There was also discussion about offering a scholarship to the contest winner and where to "house" donations to the scholarship. Pat K. will contact staff from the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DVADV) about joining this initiative as well as the feasibility of DCADV holding donated scholarship funds.
- DVCC to sponsor Domestic Violence Forum in cooperation with Christiana Care Community Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CCEWH)
 - Natasha noted that DVCC has agreed to assume leadership for the Annual Domestic Violence Forum. The Forum focuses on prevention and had been sponsored by the CCEWH for the past 12 years. Pat explained the structure and intended audiences of last year's Forums. The three DV Forums consisted of interactive theatrical skits along with audience and panel discussion. Two of the DV Forums focused on teen dating violence awareness and prevention. A DV Forum was held for students at the Howard High School of Technology. An additional DV Forum, organized by a workgroup led by the Delta Outreach and Education Center was offered to the Delta Gems and the public at the Carvel State Building. The third DV Forum was conducted in Spanish for adults at the Latin American Community Center.

Natasha thanked the Committee for their interest and support of this project. She noted the Committee will be invited to participate in future meetings of the DV Forum Planning Committee. Reginald Laster indicated he is the president of a fraternity which sponsors groups for young men in Dover, Middletown, and Wilmington and hopes to be involved in the planning.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the DVCC Public Awareness/Education Committee will be held on July 1, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. The meeting location will be in the LL 2 Conference Room in the New Castle County Courthouse, Wilmington.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Kwetkauskie, DVCC Staff
May 14, 2015